PRESS RELEASE

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THE CITY SUPPORTS THE SUNDOG CARVERS

THE CITY OF WHITEHORSE, SUNDOG CARVING CENTRE AND AIR CANADA SNOW SCULPTURE CARVING TEAMS JOIN FORCES TO ENABLE TALENTED YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY TO LEARN THE ART OF SNOW SCULPTING

Each year the City of Whitehorse is proud to facilitate the "Air Canada Snow Sculpture Challenge" to take place during "Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous Festival" by providing clean, fresh snow and pre-made snow boxes.

This year eight teams of internationally renowned sculptors: Canadian teams representing their home provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, B.C., Alberta and Yukon and two teams from the US will participate in the "Air Canada Snow Sculpture Challenge". They bring with them a wealth of sculpting knowledge and while they're in Whitehorse, for the Challenge, they have agreed to mentor six teams of young artists from the Sundog carving program.

This year the site of the "Air Canada Snow Sculpture Challenge" will be Shipyards Park. The six sculptures created by the Sundog Carvers will stand alongside the "Air Canada Snow Sculpture Challenge" sculptures at the "Air Canada Snow Sculpture Pavilion".

"We're delighted to be able to help facilitate this program. Our resources are tight this year but because "Rendezvous" has moved into Shipyards Park we've been able to keep our costs down and accommodate the needs of the Sculptors. Everyone enjoys these beautiful Snow Carvings,

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I'm sure teaching our own young people to sculpt snow will ensure this skill remains in our community" Said Mayor Buckway." We're just so happy to be able to assist"

Deanna Slonski, the program facilitator at Sundog looks forward to adding snow sculpture to one of the many mediums that the young carvers currently work in:

A beginner carver states" Its truly gonna be a pleasure to be able to do art of this type, I'm aware of the skill involved within this style and ready to take the challenge.

The "Air Canada Snow Sculpture Challenge" starts Wednesday 20th of February and finishes on the 24th but the Snow Sculptures will be left up for viewing by the community until nature takes it course and the wind and weather forces their removal.

Need more information:

City Contact: Sheila Dodd 668-8660 or dodds@city.whitehorse.yk.ca

Snow Sculptors: Contact: Donald Watt donald@snowcarver.ca

Donald is currently representing Canada (Team Yukon being the current Canadian Team) at various competitions.

Sundog: Deanna Slonski 633-4186 or deannaslonski@yahoo.com